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FOLLOW UP STUDY OF CAREER-ORIENTED CURRICULUMS 1968--PHASE I, JOB ENTRY OR TRANSFER.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLL., SELDEN, N.Y.

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PHASE ONE OF THIS STUDY IS A FOLLOWUP, BEGINNING MARCH 1968, OF GRADUATES OF OCCUPATIONAL CURRICULUMS. OF THE 429 GRADUATES QUESTIONED, 211 (49.18 PERCENT) REPLIED. INFORMATION WAS SOUGHT ON THE JOBS THEY TOOK, THE SALARY RANGES, THE KIND OF FIRMS HIRING THEM, HOW MANY WENT ON TO 4-YEAR SCHOOLS, WHICH SCHOOLS THEY WENT TO, AND WHETHER ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS. THE QUESTIONNAIRE ALSO ASKED THE STUDENTS IF THEY HAD ACQUIRED AT THE COLLEGE THE NECESSARY SKILLS FOR THEIR CAREERS AND IF THEY HAD SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE CURRICULUM. GRADUATES OF THE FOLLOWING NINE CURRICULUMS WERE REPRESENTED--(1) ACCOUNTING, (2) BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, (3) ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY, (4) ENGINEERING SCIENCE, (5) MARINE TECHNOLOGY, (6) MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY, (7) NURSING, (8) RETAIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, AND (9) SECRETARIAL SCIENCE. A COPY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS INCLUDED. PHASE TWO OF THE STUDY WILL BE DIRECTED TO EMPLOYERS. THEIR REPLIES WILL HELP TO DETERMINE THE BEST LEVEL OF SPECIALIZATION IN A COURSE, THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN SKILL AND THEORY, AND THE CORRECT PROPORTION OF GENERAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION. (HH)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Follow Up Study Of Career-Oriented Curriculums 1968

Phase I

JOB ENTRY OR TRANSFER?

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

MAY 24 1968

CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGE
INFORMATION

JC680248

The follow up study of graduates from the AAS curriculums at Suffolk County Community College began in March, 1968. The study was planned as a continuing one which will investigate various aspects of the outcomes of these curriculums.

PHASE I - JOB ENTRY OR TRANSFER

In this part of the study, the graduates were surveyed to determine the answers to several questions related to the students success in obtaining employment and in further pursuing higher education. In addition, information was sought relative to the students evaluation of the curriculums.

1. With reference to employment:

   a. What types of employment are the graduates from the various curriculums engaged in?

   b. What is the range of starting salaries in these positions?

   c. Which firms are hiring our graduates?

   d. How do their salaries progress from year to year?

2. With reference to continued higher education:

   a. How many AAS graduates transfer (full time) to four year schools?

   b. How many AAS graduates continue their education on a part time basis?

   c. At which schools are the AAS graduates attending?

3. With reference to the students experiences in the curriculums at Suffolk County Community College:

   a. Do the students believe that they acquired the necessary skills for their chosen career?

   b. Do the students have suggestions for improvement of the curriculums based on their employment experiences.

PHASE II - EMPLOYERS' EVALUATIONS

Phase II will be concerned with evaluations made by the employers of the training received by the AAS students who have obtained jobs immediately after graduation.

These employers will be surveyed and a representative group will be interviewed. Hopefully, information will be gained which will help to illuminate the following problems in each AAS curriculum:

1. The level or degree of specialization.

2. The balance between skills and theory.

3. The proportion between general education and technical education.

PHASE I - JOB ENTRY OR TRANSFER

On March 1, 1968, questionnaires (Appendix I) were mailed to 429 students who had graduated from Suffolk Community College in the years 1962 to 1966. Two weeks later a second request was mailed to all non respondants. Two hundred eleven students responded (49.18%.) Twenty three additional returns were caused by an outdated address. All attempts at locating these alumni proved fruitless.

An attempt to contact the remaining students by telephone was not successful.

This report will be presented in nine curriculum sections and a summary. The nine curriculums included are:

1. Accounting
2. Business Administration
3. Electrical Technology
4. Engineering Science
5. Marine Technology
6. Mechanical Technology
7. Nursing
8. Retail Business Management
9. Secretarial Science

ACCOUNTING

A total of 55 graduated from the accounting emphasis in the five years included in this study. Twenty six (47.27%) of these responded to the survey.

The mean beginning salary reported was $5,961. The standard deviation was $1,608. The range for the group within one standard deviation from the mean is $4,353 to $7,569. (Two thirds of the respondants earnings within this range.) The lowest salary reported is $3,000, the highest $10,000.

The job titles reported in order of decreasing frequency are: Accountant (6), Tax Examiner (5), Bookkeeper (4), Salesman (1), Assistant Controller (1), Teacher (1), Vice President (1), Auditing Clerk (1).

The average yearly differential for all respondants is $544, with a low of $175 and a high of $1,000.

Students who report that they are continuing their education represent 73.1% of the respondants. Students who transferred (full-time) to a four-year college represent 26.9% of the respondants.

In answering questions 2f and 4, the accounting graduates made the following comments:

"The entire accounting phase of the curriculum has served me well in my present position" (10).

"English and Speech were beneficial" (5).

Other comments were general in their appreciation of the curriculum.

In answer to question 5 the comments were varied; the more specific ones are:

"Typing should be required for all business students" (2).

"More courses in auditing are needed" (5).

"Accounting theory is not sufficient" (3).

"A course devoted to the CPA examination is needed" (1).

The firms which hired our accounting graduates are:

Dumont Lamp Company
Mekesson and Robbins - Hicksville
Digitronics Corporation - Albertson
New York State Department of Taxation - Mineola
Morgan Guranty Trust Company - New York City
Philip Auerback and Company
Mc Call Corporation - New York City
Central School District No. 4 - Plainview
Mid Island Air Service - Deer Park
Stanley Weisz (CPA) - Smithtown
Michael's Steak House - Rockville Centre
Newsday, Inc. - Garden City
Union Savings Bank
National Shoes, Inc.
Instruments Systems Corporation - Deer Park

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

A total of 181 graduated from the business administration emphasis in the five years included in the study. Eighty one (44.75%) of these responded to the survey.

The mean beginning salary reported was $5,823. The standard deviation was $1,479. The range for the group within one standard deviation from the mean is $4,344 to $7,302. Two thirds of the respondants have earnings within this range. The lowest salary reported is $3,380, the highest $9,500.

The job titles reported in order of decreasing frequency are: Business Teacher (7), Manager (6), Sales Representative (6), Accountant (3), Manager Trainee (3), Clerk Typist (2), Bartender (2), Sales Manager (2), Tax Examiner (2), Case Worker (2), Engineering Clerk (2), Executive Secretary (2), Auditor (2), Planning Engineer (2), Supply Officer (2), Patrolman (1), Bond Underwriter (1), Bank Examiner (1), Expediter (1), Collection Manager (1), Spares Administrator (1), Insurance Investigator (1), Purchasing Manager (1), Method Analyst Coordinator (1), Personnel Administrator (1), Securities Trader (1), Health Technician (1), Distributive Education Coordinator (1), Carrier (1), Computer Programmer (1), Field Sales Engineer (1), Copy Analyst (1), Computer Technician (1), Work Package Controller (1), Insurance Salesman (1), Technician Aide (1).

In answering questions 2f and 4 the business administration graduates made the following comments:

"The business curriculum was very helpful in introducing fundamental business concepts: (21).

"Accounting courses were most beneficial and they have helped me in my present position" (8).

"Individual instruction and attention given by the business instructors was most helpful" (5).

"Freshman Seminar classes helped me" (2).

The answers to question 5, as synthesized, are given here:

"The business mathematics course should be changed to a more advanced course - more comprehensive" (6).

"There should be a work study experience included in the curriculum" (6).

"There is a need for better planning of students programs for transfer to four-year colleges" (4).

"Economics and history offerings need improvement" (3).

ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY

There were 23 graduates from the electrical technology curriculum. Fifteen (65.22%) responded to the survey.

The mean salary reported was $5,680, and the standard deviation is $1,153. The range of beginning salaries within one standard deviation from the mean is $4,527 to $6,833. The total range of beginning salaries is $3,960 to $8,000.

The job titles reported in order of decreasing frequency are: Electronic Technician (8), Engineering Assistant (4), Designer (1), Math Teacher (1).

The average yearly differential reported is $774. The lowest reported yearly differential is $300 and the highest is $938.

Six of the responding graduates indicated that they were continuing their education. Three were attending college on a full-time basis and were aiming for baccalaureate degrees, while one was in the process of studying for a Masters' degree.

Comments on useful skills and beneficial aspects of the curriculum are as follows:

"All lab work and technical courses have proved to be worthwhile" (6).

"Slide rule applications to electronic problems have served me well" (4).

The comments which relate to suggestions for improvement were:

"Semi conductors and integrated circuits should account for a larger part of the curriculum" (7).

"Theoretical electronics could be stressed more" (4).

More practical work with various meters, scopes, and oscillators is needed (2).

The firms which hired the graduates in electrical technology are:

A. T. & T. Long Lines Department, White Plains, New York
I B M East Fishkill, New York
International Business Machines, Huntsville, Alabama
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Hazeltine Corporation, Greenlawn, New York
Airborne Institute Laboratory, Farmingdale
Grumman Aviation Engineering Corporation, Bethpage, New York
General Instr. Corp., Hicksville, New York
Commack High School

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Twenty graduates are recorded for the five years included in this study. Five responses (25%) were received in answer to the survey.

Three of these students are presently employed as engineers. The average starting salary is $6,797. One student reports that he is in the service and is in ordnance.

Two students transferred to full-time study and two are presently attending college on a part-time basis. The fifth is presently in the service.

Three of these students are now employed full-time. The firms for which they work are:

Sperry Gyroscope
Grumman Aircraft
Brookhaven National Laboratory

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

Seven graduates were listed for the period 1962-1966. Of these, three replied to the survey (42.8%.)

All are engaged in full-time programs of study aimed at baccalaureate degrees. None of these reported employment information.

The schools they are attending are:

University of Washington - B. S. in Zoology (1)

Southampton College - B. S. in Marine Biology (2)

The three students experienced some loss of credit in transfer. One reports less than half transfer credit and another reports a loss of 20%. The third merely indicates a loss of credit.

These three students concur in their estimates of the curriculum. "It is not a transfer program." All three recommend that more attention be given to the students who plans to transfer from the marine technology program into a four-year marine biology degree program.

MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY

There were 15 graduates in mechanical technology in the years 1962-1966. Eight replied to the survey (53.33%.)

The average reported salary was $7,442, the standard deviation is $1,969. The range of salaries within one standard deviation from the mean is $5,473 to $9,411. The total range is $5,300 to $10,000.

Job titles reported: Technician (3), Tool and Die Maker (1), Machine Shop Partner (1), Test Engineer (1).

The average reported yearly differential is $821. The lowest differential reported is $666 and the highest is $1,000.

Four of the respondees are continuing their education. Three have transferred into four year institutions on a full-time basis.

Comments include the following:

Most useful skills include Machine Design, Mechanical Drawing (2)

Metallurgy and shop methods were most beneficial (2)

Practical application courses (1)

More emphasis should be placed on report writing (1)

A special english course should be offered for technical students (1)

Calculus, electronics, and chemistry should be more important in the curriculum (1)

The firms which hired Suffolk County Community College graduates from mechanical technology are:

Grumman Aircraft (2)
Milson Manufacturing Corporation
IBM, Poughkeepsie

NURSING

Between 1962 and 1966, 47 students graduated from the nursing program at Suffolk County Community College. Twenty-six responded to the survey (55.32%.)

The mean reported beginning salary was $5,714. The standard deviation is $915. The range of salaries within one standard deviation from the mean is $4,799 to $6,629. The total range is $4,356 to $8,000.

Job titles reported: Registered Nurse (8), Charge Nurse (7), Staff Nurse (6), Chief Inhalation Therapy (1), College Nurse (1), OR Nurse (1).

Three of the nursing graduates report that they are continuing their education. Two of them are enrolled full-time, one at Adelphi and one at the University of North Carolina.

The graduates comments:

"All parts of the curriculum were worthwhile" (12).

Practical nursing skills are an important part of the curriculum (3).

Hospital or clinical exposure should be increased (4)

Anatomy and Physiology should be included in the curriculum (4).

Nursing graduates are presently employed at:

St. Charles Hospital (5)
Birchwood Nursing Home
Smithtown General Hospital
Southside Hospital
New York State Department of Mental Hygene
Pilgrim State Hospital
St. John's Hospital
Suffolk State School
Suffolk County Community College
Brookhaven Memorial Hospital (2)
Good Samaritan Hospital (2)
Mather Hospital
Central Islip State Hospital
Sun Rest Nursing Home
Central Suffolk Nurses Registry
Kings' Daughters Hospital

RETAIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Eleven graduates from this program are listed for the five year period 1962 to 1966. Six responses were made to the survey (54.54%.)

The average beginning salary reported was $3,895. The standard deviation is $795. The range of salaries within one standard deviation from the mean is $3,300 to $4,690. The total range is $3,120 to $5,120.

The job titles reported are: Sales Representative (2), Assistant Buyer (1), Receptionist (1), Clerk Typist (1).

The average yearly differential reported was $232.

Two of the retailing graduates report that they are continuing their education. One is attending Adelphi full-time and the other is attending C. W. Post part-time.

Several students commented about the need for more experience in retailing as part of the program.

The employers listed by the students who responded are:

IBM
New York Telephone Company
Sears, Roebuck and Company
Martins Department Store
d'Armigene, Inc.

SECRETARIAL SCIENCE

Sixty students graduated from the secretarial science curriculum at Suffolk County Community College between 1962 and 1966. Thirty seven (61.66%) responded to the survey. The mean beginning salary reported is $4,403. The standard deviation is $809 and the range of beginning salaries within one standard deviation from the mean is $3,594 to $5,212. The total range is from $3,300 to $5,460.

Job titles reported include the following: Secretary (12), Stenographer (10), Business Teacher (2), Personnel Assistant (2), Guest Services (1), Medical Secretary (1), Collection Correspondent (1).

The average yearly differential is $337. Seven of the secretarial graduates are continuing their education. Five of these have continued as full-time students.

The comments made by the respondants indicates satisfaction with their ability to apply skills acquired in the program.

There were a few suggestions for improvement. "Science courses for non-science majors are too rigorous" (1)

Business courses were too general (1)

"The accounting course is not planned for non-accounting majors" (1).

The employers who have hired our graduates are:

Bethpage High School
State of New York Department of Transportation
General Electric Company
G M A C, Patchogue
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Roy G. Nelson, Inc.
Brown and Tibbs
Manson Electronics Division
Drs. Hutton and Histings
SUNY - Stony Brook
Hazeltine Corporation
Suffolk County Community College

Bankers Security Life Insurance
B.O.C.E.S. Second Supervisory District
Brookhaven Memorial Hospital
Long Island Railroad, Jamaica
Hughes Aircraft Company, Los Angeles, California
Pilgrim State Hospital
Grumman Aircraft
F. G. Adams Company
Southampton College
New York Telephone
Wallingford Steel Company, Conn.
IBM
John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company

FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS TO WHICH OUR GRADUATES HAVE TRANSFERRED

Adelphi-Suffolk College
Adelphi University
Bryant College
C. W. Post College
City College of New York
College of Santa Fe
Columbia University
Concord College
Florida Atlantic University
Hofstra University
International Accountants Society
Long Island University
New York Institute of Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Northern Michigan University
Pace College
San Jose State College
Southampton College
State University College at Geneseo
State University of New York at Albany
State University of New York at Binghamton
State University of New York at Farmingdale
State University of New York at Stony Brook
University of Arizona
University of Bridgeport
University of Corpus Christi
University of Hawaii
University of Houston
University of Kentucky
University of North Carolina
University of Washington

	Total Grads	No. of Responses	Mean of Begin. Salaries	Standard Deviations	Number Contin. Educa.	No. Who Transf. Full-Time	Per Cent Response
Accounting	55	26	5,961	1,603	19	7	47.27
Bus. Admin.	181	81	5,823	1,479	55	21	44.75
Elec. Tech.	23	13	5,680	1,153	5	1	56.52
Engineering	20	3					15.00
Marine Tech.	7	3					42.86
Mech. Tech.	15	8	7,442	1,969	4	2	53.33
Nursing	47	25	5,714	915	2	1	53.19
Retail Bus. Mgt.	11	6	3,895	795	2	1	54.55
Sec. Science	60	36	4,403	809	7	4	60.00
All Curriculums	419	201	5,562	1,238	94	37	47.97

Your responses will be held in strictest confidence.

1. From which curriculum did you graduate?_____
_____

2. If you are employed answer these questions, if not skip to 3.

   a. Name and location of firm_____
   b. Type of work_____ Full time Part time
   c. Job title_____
   d. Title of your immediate supervisor_____
   e. First yearly salary_____Present yearly salary_____
   f. Which skills did your studies at the college give you which are useful in your work?
      Comments:_____
      _____
      _____
   g. Do you intend to continue in this type of work?
      Yes_____ No_____
      Comments:_____
      _____
   h. How did you obtain your present position? (College placement, employment agency ...) _____
      _____

3. If you are continuing your education, answer these questions, if not skip to 4.

   a. Which college are you attending?_____
   b. What degree are you pursuing?_____ Major Minor
   c. Full time or Part time? Full_____ Part_____
   d. Did you continue directly after graduation from Suffolk County Community College? Yes____ No_____
   e. When do you expect to graduate?_____
      Comments:_____
      _____
      _____
   f. Did you receive full transfer credit for your program at Suffolk County Community College?_____

4. Which parts of the curriculum at Suffolk County Community College were most beneficial to you?_____
_____
_____

5. Which parts of the curriculum at Suffolk County Community College do you feel need improvement or change?_____
_____
_____

6. Would you be willing to be interviewed by a representative of the college in connection with your responses to this questionnaire? Any interviews will be conducted at your convenience.
Yes_____ No_____

2. If you are employed answer these questions, if not skip to 3.

a. Name and location of firm_____
b. Type of work_____ Full time Part time
c. Job title_____
d. Title of your immediate supervisor_____
e. First yearly salary_____Present yearly salary_____
f. Which skills did your studies at the college give you which are useful in your work?
Comments:_____
_____
_____

g. Do you intend to continue in this type of work?
Yes_____ No_____
Comments:_____
_____

h. How did you obtain your present position? (College placement, employment agency ...) _____
_____

3. If you are continuing your education, answer these questions, if not skip to 4.

a. Which college are you attending?_____
b. What degree are you pursuing?_____ Major Minor
c. Full time or Part time? Full_____ Part_____
d. Did you continue directly after graduation from Suffolk County Community College? Yes____ No_____
e. When do you expect to graduate?_____
Comments:_____
_____
_____

f. Did you receive full transfer credit for your program at Suffolk County Community College?_____

4. Which parts of the curriculum at Suffolk County Community College were most beneficial to you?_____
_____
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5. Which parts of the curriculum at Suffolk County Community College do you feel need improvement or change?_____
_____
_____

6. Would you be willing to be interviewed by a representative of the college in connection with your responses to this questionnaire? Any interviews will be conducted at your convenience.
Yes_____ No_____

Name _____ Home Phone_____

Address _____ Business Phone_____

_____